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DADE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 3, 2012

1 MR. RUMLEY: As always, I would like to
2 ask Robert Goff to lead us in prayer and the Pledge
3 of Allegiance.

4 (Thereupon, the invocation and
5 Pledge of Allegiance were given.)

6 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Robert. This
7 is the regularly scheduled meeting of the Dade
8 County Board of Commissioners which takes place at
9 the same time on the first Thursday of every month.
10 Proper notice of this meeting was given in the legal
11 organ of Dade County and has been posted in the
12 hallway of the Administrative Building. At this
13 time I need a roll call. Mr. Smith?

14 MR. SMITH: Here.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman is absent.
16 Mr. Goff?

17 MR. GOFF: Here.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

19 MR. CERVELLI: Here.

20 MR. RUMLEY: The chair is present. We
21 have a forum. We'll move down to the district
22 commissioner's committee reports, community reports.
23 Mitchell?

24 MR. SMITH: This past month in the 911
25 operations, we had 1,473 calls, 135 fire, 2,004

EMS -- I'm sorry, 200 rescue. I can't even read.

As most of you heard from the meeting before at the business meeting, the Three Mountain Three State ride is this weekend, May 5th. It's their 25th anniversary. There's riders from 28 states, Washington, D.C. and Canada and maybe others. That was the last that was posted on the web site of the different states and different countries. Those of you that live in the Slygo and the north end, they'll be coming down Hales Gap Road and be at the split approximately, by bike riders that have road the course, around 11:20. The biggest portion will turn right, go down to the KOA, hit 11, back on the Creek Road, up Burkhalter and they'll stop at the infamous Cagle SAG stop. The other portion will stay on 299, hit Dugan's Loop, back to 299, go to U.S. 11 and head toward Chattanooga. The sixty -- that's the 190-mile. The 62-mile will hit -- come in from Tiftonia down 11 and hit Dade County roughly at 10:00 and then come and go up 299 down to Hale Town, what they call the Goat's Trail and then follow the other path back down. And the 25 milers will be bussed to the Cagle's farm and ride back to Chattanooga. It's going to be a busy weekend. Get your lawn chair out, which I do, sit, wave and cheer

1 them on. You know, A little hospitality goes a long
2 way, especially since starting next year in 2013,
3 2014 and 2015, Chattanooga will be hosting the U.S.
4 Pro Road Race and Timed Trial Championships.
5 Volkswagen is a partner and this will be the men's
6 championships, but it will also be in 2013 in dog
7 world race for the women's championship in timed
8 trials.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Is that all --

10 MR. SMITH: This is cyclists -- bikes.
11 And more than likely -- it's Memorial Day weekend
12 and more than likely, they will be using part of
13 Lookout Mountain for the race. Lookout Mountain is
14 the draw. You can tell on the list, about 80 or
15 90 percent of the riders for Three Mountain Three
16 State, they're here for Burkhalter Gap. They're
17 here for that ride.

18 MR. CERVELLI: Yeah, we know.

19 MR. SMITH: We're close enough to
20 Chattanooga that '13, '14 and '15 we need some
21 hospitality out and get the folks to stay here. You
22 know, you've got the RV park, KOA, Cloudland, places
23 to eat, that we can get some business out of the
24 race during those next three years that it's in
25 Chattanooga.

1 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Thank you,
2 Mitchell.

3 MR. GOFF: Mitchell?

4 MR. RUMLEY: I said thank you,
5 Mitchell. I know your name, Robert Goff.

6 MR. GOFF: Well, I've got a very
7 important announcement tonight for -- last week when
8 we had the anniversary, Scottie gave me his five
9 minutes since he's not here. And first thing I want
10 to do is I want to congratulate our county clerk,
11 Mr. Don Townsend. He was installed this week as the
12 president of the County Clerk's Association of the
13 State. So he may be pulling his hair out before the
14 next two years is up, but we have now some greatness
15 among us.

16 For some of the rest of it, I'm going
17 to leave the podium and I'm going to apologize for
18 telling just a wee little bitty -- there's no such
19 thing as a white lie, but if you'll hand me those,
20 Peter. I was in Savannah that this week at the ACCG
21 annual meeting and --

22 MR. RUMLEY: Lightening is going to
23 strike you. That's all I can say. You better go to
24 church.

25 MR. GOFF: Two of our commissioners --

1 and by the way, that will mean that all five
2 commissioners on this board are now certified
3 commissioners, which means you have fulfilled quite
4 a few hours of training. When you first start, and
5 I think Mitchell will probably agree with this.
6 When you first start, you think what's this all
7 about, but as you continue on in that training, you
8 find out a lot of things you didn't know and a lot
9 of things that's going to benefit the community and
10 your constituency because you do know them. You can
11 give answers to a lot of things. Some of them I'll
12 talk about here in a minute on the laws that went
13 over since I've got Scottie's five minutes.

14 But one of these goes to Mitchell Smith
15 and the other to our chairman Ted Rumley and Ted
16 asked me did the lady send the plaques and I said
17 she mailed them. Well, they were at some point in
18 the mail. It just didn't come to Dade County in the
19 mail, but knowing that our meeting would be tonight,
20 I felt it appropriate because I think it is
21 recognition. I was able to go and they weren't. A
22 lapel pin that goes with it, nice little pin. So
23 that is quite an accomplishment, again, because --
24 and I know it's part of the budget when we talk
25 about it that allows us and affords us to be able to

1 do those things, but believe me, when it comes back
2 to the county and to the citizens, that's the only
3 way you're really going to know is to be able to go
4 and hear the things that are unfolding. So
5 congratulations to them and I wish Scottie was here
6 to know that I spent his five minutes well.

7 We already talked about in the other
8 meeting about the tax -- the tax laws and they're
9 far more reaching than just auto taxes, but that
10 will be the one where people are going to start
11 seeing after March 1st of next year. They're going
12 to see a big difference. As Ted explained earlier,
13 you may have a car sitting out in front of your
14 house with a for sale sign on it. Peter comes by
15 and buys that car, there's no sales tax. There's
16 never been. He goes down and pays \$18 to get the
17 title changed from whoever sells it to him. And now
18 that car will be taxed at a rate of -- from the Blue
19 Book.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Six and a half percent.

21 MR. GOFF: Six and a half percent for
22 the first year up to seven. And the same thing with
23 a new car. If you go to the dealership and buy a
24 new car and you come to get your tags, you will pay
25 the taxes on it at that time of six and a half

1 percent the first, seven thereafter, but you don't
2 do that every year. What we're doing now, on our
3 birthday, buying our tag and paying the ad valorem,
4 you will only be buying the tag on that car, the tag
5 fee from then on, so it's a little more of a
6 one-time deal. So it's going to really change when
7 people come in and say, well, I just bought this
8 from my neighbor, we've never paid taxes before and
9 that's going to be where the rub is. It's going to
10 benefit people who keep a car for a lot of years.
11 As we said earlier, nobody knows how that's going to
12 affect our revenues here necessarily.

13 The other big one that, two others.
14 One is open meeting, open records, which is what we
15 do here tonight. Everything that we talk about
16 tonight, the budget and things are open to the
17 public and Ted says every month they're in my office
18 if you need to see them, and they are. But those
19 laws are changing. We've always had this little
20 shiver down our spine if more than two of us got in
21 a car to go in a meeting, for instance, dealing with
22 the bankruptcy that we've gone to and you think,
23 well, the Sunshine Law and some people jokingly will
24 break it up and sometimes beneath that joke it's a
25 little bit of are y'all doing the right thing. But

1 we can go to meetings now. We can go to civic and
2 church and social meetings and we can go to Atlanta
3 to meetings without breaking the Sunshine Law
4 because we're not going there to do business and
5 we're not taking votes. So that will be something
6 you may see and hear about in different communities
7 or different counties that's come up. That was the
8 big one.

9 And then finally, the justice overhaul
10 is going to change the way business is done in the
11 county from -- they raised some of the limits. Some
12 of the things that were a felony will now become a
13 misdemeanor, which means they're no longer in the
14 state court. They're going to be in the county
15 court, which means that the document is going to
16 change and what happens to those people maybe are
17 not -- they've been going to prison. They may not
18 now. They be out on parole and so on, but it's
19 going to change. All these things are things that
20 we look at when we talk about this budget. You
21 don't really know what's going to change. It's hard
22 to make a budget and then things develop inside it.
23 But those are some of the things that's come up.

24 I would like to say I'm glad the
25 Mountain View Apartments, those are the three

1 apartment buildings over where I live over in the
2 Glenbrook area across the road from the high school
3 are all open now. I talked to some of the tenants
4 yesterday. They are better than -- much better than
5 they were before the storms a year ago. Some have
6 been built for handicapped accessibility. So that's
7 a positive sign that opens up some more housing for
8 some people. Also, the building that is going on,
9 houses that are going back up. It's took a year to
10 do it and we're not over it yet, but things are
11 really beginning to look up in our communities and
12 the houses that are being built back.

13 Today I know Billy and his crew or some
14 of his crew was busy down in Rising Fawn on Mason
15 Road at the bridges. We've finally started being
16 able to clean out the creeks and the waterways and
17 get some of that that's been a hindrance to some
18 people and being able to do that, but they've got
19 the bridges cleaned down there, still others to go
20 and things that we're working on. But my hats off
21 to everybody that's weathered this storm. And then
22 one final thing, not only is the Three Mountain
23 Three State bike ride this week, but what else is
24 going on down in Rising Fawn? The Moonshine Mud
25 Run. So go and be a part of that. Mike Lawson and

1 Mr. Faircloth have worked very hard and I know
2 others. It's not a one or two person thing. It
3 takes a lot to put that together. So go down. If
4 you get a chance, as Mitchell said, sit on the road,
5 wave at people, offer them a bottle maybe or
6 whatever you might be able to do. Go down if you're
7 not going -- I don't plan to crawl through the mud.
8 If I went down there and tried to run, I would be
9 crawling through the mud against my wishes, but I do
10 plan to try to go down, cheer the people on and
11 maybe buy a hamburger to help that cause out.

12 MR. RUMLEY: You're supposed to be in
13 the dunk box. I forgot to tell you that. They've
14 got one of them deals where they throw the ball and
15 it drops you in the water.

16 MR. GOFF: It's on Saturday and I've
17 got to take a bath anyway. That will help my water
18 bill. Thank you for reminding me of that.

19 I think that's all I've got. I know it
20 was a lot to run by and I talk fast, but thank you
21 for being here tonight.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Robert. I
23 might clarify. The bankruptcy that Robert is
24 talking about is not our bankruptcy. It is -- it is
25 the bankruptcy that Robin will touch on pertaining

1 to the Southern Group in Rising Fawn that's been
2 going on and they actually owe us a little over half
3 a million dollars in taxes that we're working on.
4 Peter, go ahead.

5 MR. CERVELLI: Thank you. Let's get to
6 the fun stuff, the budget. This April, our local
7 option sales tax collections were \$179,900. That's
8 compared to 159,000 last April. That's about
9 12 percent more than it was last April. However,
10 it's also 18 percent more than it was just last
11 month. Last month we collected 151,000. Remember,
12 the last couple of months we talked about how sales
13 tax collections have been down and they seem to have
14 recovered. That's why we see such a large increase,
15 an 18 percent increase because it's not like there's
16 some amazing thing that's happened, but we've
17 recovered from the bad numbers over the last couple
18 of months.

19 We were hoping that would happen when
20 people got back to normal sales and shopping habits
21 after a warm winter. So I'm optimistic that maybe
22 we're back on the trend that we were on before we
23 saw that dip and a drop in sales tax. So that's a
24 hopeful sign, but given the variability we've seen
25 in these numbers, as I've been saying for a year, we

1 just need to be cautious.

2 We've collected about \$654,800 so far
3 in this calendar year for local option sales tax.
4 That's about nine percent more for the same period
5 in 2011. And in terms of S.P.L.O.S.T, S.P.L.O.S.T
6 collections for April were \$222,900. Same
7 percentages and the same percentages apply, so that
8 was actually -- this has actually been a good month
9 in terms of sales tax collections. I'm optimistic
10 and hopeful, but we will see as time goes on.

11 The other big news that you -- if you
12 were paying attention and listening to all of our
13 discussions was the 2013 budget. Before I get to
14 that though, let me talk a little bit about the 2012
15 budget. We've published numbers for March of 2012.
16 We're through 75 percent of our fiscal year. March
17 is 75 percent of our fiscal year, which ends in
18 June. We've attained about 77 percent of the
19 revenue expectations through March, but we're also
20 at about 78 percent of expenses through March. Our
21 revenue less expense for the year is negative
22 \$285,800. Last month it was \$209,000. So we're
23 still not seeing the hopeful signs of our numbers
24 balancing out. We're still paying for the tornado
25 and those numbers, all those FEMA dollars in and out

1 are in our budget and so we're still seeing some of
2 those problems in terms of budgeting. Those will
3 hopefully be gone for 2013. We'll be back to normal
4 business.

5 As I said, one of the things we learned
6 about doing the 2013 budget is that we see medical
7 costs are going up, insurance costs. At least our
8 best hope is we can hold it the ten percent. We
9 don't think we're going to get any better than that.
10 We started out at a 19 percent increase. We're
11 fairly -- I have to rely on Jennifer and our staff.
12 We're fairly confident we can get that number down
13 hopefully to ten percent, but that's an \$85,000
14 increase that we're just going to have to eat in
15 terms of medical costs. If we can't make that
16 ten percent number, obviously that number will be
17 larger. It could be 100,000, \$125,000 increase.

18 The other thing in terms of looking at
19 the first draft of the budget, we were estimating
20 our revenues are probably two hundred fifty, two
21 thousand dollars less than they were our current
22 fiscal year. A lot of that has to do with court
23 costs. We're not getting fines and various other
24 things. Some grants have gone away and so revenues
25 are down about a quarter of a million and our

1 expenses are up about \$150,000 and we've put the
2 budget back together again. Not to be redundant.
3 There's nobody on furlough in this first draft of
4 the budget.

5 So we put together that \$400,000
6 revenue problem, expense problem and the \$100,000
7 problem for medical costs, we're looking at a half
8 million dollars we want to try to close. So our
9 first draft budget, we're going to look to try to
10 bring out second draft at closer to cut about
11 500,000. How we'll do that, I can't tell you, but
12 we're not going to try to do it on furloughing on
13 just a subset of the people in the county as we've
14 been doing so far. We're going to look other
15 places. So that's the next step before we start our
16 fiscal year again July 1st.

17 Oh yeah, there's another important
18 announcement. I'll save this until last because
19 it's so important. We've talked about the bicycle
20 race. I'm not going to dwell on that much, but a
21 lot of preparation has been done with the Sheriff's
22 department and Georgia State Patrol and safety.
23 We've had a number of meetings with the bicycle
24 club, with our Sheriff's Department, even with some
25 of the residents of the community up on Lookout

1 Mountain to try to deal with some of the concerns
2 people have had about the race, not the race, the
3 event. And so I'll be spending, and probably Ted, a
4 lot of time out there as we do every year watching
5 to make sure that what we plan to take place
6 actually takes place and they follow through with --
7 the Chattanooga Bike Club follows through as they
8 said they would. And so I'm hopeful that it will be
9 a safe event and a positive event. It will be about
10 a five-hour impact on the county from beginning to
11 end. That's just the reality of it. It takes about
12 five hours for these people to come through unless
13 there's some inordinate number of bikers that we
14 don't expect. So it will take about that long.

15 The other thing I want to talk about is
16 that I think Tuesday is Law Enforcement Appreciation
17 Day, if I'm not mistaken. So if you're out here on
18 the square Tuesday at noon, we're going to have Law
19 Enforcement Appreciation.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Actually, it will be in
21 the courthouse.

22 MR. CERVELLI: That's right, over in
23 the courtroom in the new courthouse. Where we honor
24 a local sheriff's department officer, a city officer
25 and someone from Georgia State Patrol. So if you

1 can make that, it's a great event. Come Tuesday at
2 noon at the new courthouse.

3 The other thing is in two weeks the
4 State of Dade Heritage Festival takes place.
5 There's been an enormous amount of work that's gone
6 into that. We've got a great Indian powwow that's
7 going to take place down here on the ball field next
8 to the elementary school as well as some
9 demonstrations of motorcycling and vendors. And so
10 May 18th, 19th and 20th, please come out on the
11 evening of Friday the 18th, all day Saturday, the
12 18th and Sunday, the 20th, come on out and take part
13 in that. We expect it to be a great event.

14 And now the most important thing is it
15 was Ted Rumley's birthday on Monday.

16 MR. RUMLEY: 30th, April 30th.

17 MR. CERVELLI: So before you go, he's
18 only 39. Just wish him a happy 39th.

19 MR. RUMLEY: I wish I was 39.

20 MR. SMITH: If he's 39, I'm 40.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Diane had one also the
22 19th.

23 MR. CERVELLI: That's all I have.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Peter. As
25 Peter mentioned, you know, I can speak another 45

1 minutes on the budget, but it's really a critical
2 time for us and for the County. We feel good about
3 even the 500,000. I feel that we're going to be
4 able to handle it. So we'll definitely keep you
5 informed on that throughout the weeks.

6 Robert and I this past month we had a
7 meeting in Chattanooga and we wound up, we got a
8 chance to go visit Volkswagen and we got to go
9 through the Volkswagen assembly plant and I really
10 didn't think anything about it. When we went, I
11 though, well, it's, you know, not a big deal, but
12 when I left there, I'm telling you it's something.
13 I had seen different things on TV about, you know,
14 assembly plants. That is something. If you get a
15 chance, they do give tours. You can actually go
16 through this. It's just amazing, the automation. I
17 know you agree with me, Robert, because I was
18 watching your face, too. I mean, it's just amazing
19 to see how clean it was and how many -- really
20 robots, the robotics of the plant. It was just
21 amazing, so -- but we're diligently working with --
22 trying to work with Volkswagen and we attend
23 everything possible with them internally and
24 hopefully we can pull some of that to Dade County in
25 the future because they are expanding and one of

1 things I did notice in the -- the guy that gave us
2 the tour, he was really good. They're actually
3 covering their whole parking lot where the new cars
4 are at with some type of mesh and I'm talking about
5 acres and acres and acres where they park the new
6 cars. The reason being is because of hail damage,
7 you know, because we've had quite a few instances in
8 the past year or so. And he said that one of the
9 big factors that brought Volkswagen here was not
10 only the work force and all that, but it was the
11 weather, that we had, you know, little chance of
12 tornadoes and hail and so -- did you catch that? He
13 said that and he said since they've been a year,
14 close to it, and it was amazing that it seems like
15 they brought everything with them. They're spending
16 hundreds of thousands of dollars to cover this whole
17 parking lot. That amazes me. But anyway, we
18 enjoyed that and I hope we did represent Dade
19 County. I think we did -- maybe we left a good --

20 Also, I want to touch on the dedication
21 ceremonies that Robert mentioned out here. If you
22 didn't come to that, you really missed a special, a
23 touching evening. We had, I guess, close to 1,500
24 people that went through, free food and also the
25 dedication was around 5:30 when the tornado was

1 coming through and it was really a touching moment.
2 So we really -- it was just -- the words can't say,
3 you know, what was going through my mind, but I was
4 standing there while I was speaking and I was
5 looking at people, you know, and I know good and
6 well they were remembering exactly where they were
7 at at that very minute. It was just cold chills
8 came through, but it was a special day and I believe
9 that -- I know the people, the families appreciated
10 it, honored the two people that lost their lives.
11 It was a great loss to Dade County.

12 Robert touched also -- he was reading
13 my notes over here. I seen him. He was cheating
14 off me.

15 MR. GOFF: I can't read that reading.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Also, we did have -- met
17 several times with CVSQ and with the NRCS, which is
18 natural resource people that we deal with on our
19 creek cleanup. The money is funneling through them
20 and we have started. We started today in Rising
21 Fawn down at the -- actually, it's the Mason Road
22 bridge. Monday we're probably going to move on
23 farther north and do the northern part of the
24 cleanup, which is on up past the hang gliders.
25 We've got a really bad area right there. There's

1 tons of debris there that we've got to get out of
2 the creek. And all in all, we've got six approved
3 by the Corps of Engineers and by the EPD areas in
4 the creek and it does, it goes from the south end
5 all the way to the northern part of the hang gliders
6 there. We actually submitted more and I know the
7 City submitted some and they were turned down like
8 on the creek, Town Creek and all. That's something
9 and it is bad and hopefully, you know, before the
10 summer is out, maybe we can jointly with the City
11 help them and remove some of that right at the end
12 because it is -- if we have a really heavy week or
13 so of rain, it could really back up, you know, and
14 do some damage there. It's actually right down
15 below where those apartments are at. And we'll work
16 with you, Mayor, any way we can with the street
17 department, you know, when we get this finished
18 here, we'll try to help y'all with that.

19 I was trying to think of -- I think you
20 erased part of mine, too. Oh, just to touch on Don.
21 I mean, that is really something to be proud of, you
22 know. We're talking the whole state and he is
23 actually the clerk's association, he's -- is it
24 called president or chair?

25 MR. TOWNSEND: King of the clerks.

It's president.

MR. RUMLEY: So we are proud of Don. He works -- he puts a lot of hours in. He puts a lot of hours in he's not paid for. I didn't realize that until I actually became the commissioner or the chair and we do appreciate it, and Robin, you know. Robin, he really -- I'm not kidding you. Robin is our attorney, but Robin does a lot for us that people don't realize that's not charged. He's not one of these attorneys that when you call him, you know, you can hear that clock and he keeps up with the minutes and that's something to be proud of in this day and time for an attorney. There's a lot of counties who would give a lot of money just to have him on their payroll. So I know it sounds crazy.

MR. CERVELLI: It's all free. It's excellent.

MR. RUMLEY: I've learned what the word pro bono means. I never used that in Rising Fawn. I didn't know what it mean until I met Robin.

MR. GOFF: You thought that was Sunny
and Cher's child.

MR. RUMLEY: Anyone got any more comments?

MR. GOFF: I did hear yesterday and the

1 agriculture department put on a great thing for the
2 schools yesterday, I think two day. It was a great
3 thing and Rich, of course, is a part of that. Ted
4 mentioned last month about the thing in the paper
5 for the county agent. They have closed that and now
6 we'll begin the process of going through those
7 people. Do you know, was it 27, I think?
8 Twenty-seven candidates applied. And most of them,
9 I think, according to Norman were younger people
10 that --

11 MR. RUMLEY: College graduates.

12 MR. GOFF: Not all of them were
13 in-house agents already somewhere.

14 MR. RUMLEY: So we are on our way to
15 getting a full-time agent. They promised this,
16 they're going to go through and narrow it down to
17 probably four or five people and then they'll get
18 down to the real, you know, the serious interviews
19 and we are -- Robert and I, possibly Peter,
20 Mitchell, whoever, we'll have accessibility to that,
21 sit in on those just to kind of listen. We're
22 proud.

23 Of course, Rich, you know, even if it
24 didn't happen, he's doing a great job. He's still
25 going to be with us. We're proud to have him with

1 us.

2 Mayor, do you want to come on up? We
3 have our mayor here tonight with the City of
4 Trenton. It's always good to see him. We always
5 allow him about 30 seconds to give us an update on
6 the City.

7 MR. EMANUEL: I would like to thank Ted
8 and the other Commissioners for allowing us to
9 address Dade Countians. It's always nice to speak
10 to fellow Dade Countians. We are Dade Countians,
11 people who live in Trenton. But it's a privilege to
12 be here. It gives us the opportunity, hopefully, to
13 bring you up to date as to the health and well-being
14 of the City.

15 Some of you know, some of you may not
16 know, but the first hundred days in office, I was
17 totally involved in a financial analysis. We
18 literally took every line item, took it apart, put
19 it back together and at the conclusion of the study,
20 we went back and decided this line item is
21 essential, this line item is not essential. We
22 cannot ignore the economic crunch that the City and
23 County are under. Anybody that thinks the recession
24 has gone away is dreaming. It's still with us and
25 it's not going anywhere. When we lost the 400 jobs

1 at Shaw and we did not -- within the City, we did
2 not take appropriate action on expenses, we libeled
3 the City of Trenton to the point of a deficit of
4 almost a half million dollars. I'm a businessman.
5 I've been a professional manager for forty years. I
6 have never accepted nor will I ever accept deficit
7 spending. You don't spend money you don't have.

8 This has involved some painful
9 decisions. We elected not to go the furlough route
10 because furloughs, quite frankly in my humble
11 opinion, are temporary solutions to temporary
12 problems. But when you've got a long-term problem,
13 ultimately you've got what amounts to 80, 85 percent
14 of your cost and for the City of Trenton, that comes
15 down to people, comes down to head count, comes down
16 to positions. These type reductions are never easy.
17 I have made them across a broad spectrum of
18 manufacturing environments. I've never had a
19 layoff, never had a forced reduction that I didn't
20 lose a lot of sleep over and that I did not pray
21 over that I was doing the right thing.

22 So we ask your patience as we go
23 through this process. It's really going to take us
24 the entire year to the return the financial
25 integrity to the City, but I can assure you we will

1 do that. By the end of the year, we will be looking
2 at a real balanced budget, not one that we played
3 fun and games with by adjusting it twice during the
4 year or we played games with S.P.L.O.S.T versus
5 general fund. We don't play those games anymore.
6 So the numbers that your County Commissioners are
7 looking at are real numbers. And I draw their
8 attention to the month of April, the highlighted
9 line items highlighted in yellow, but with
10 particular attention to the footnotes beside them
11 and then the notes at the bottom of the page.

12 April's revenue of 98,000 represents an
13 improvement over March's. However, it remains well
14 below the budget of 149,000. April's taxes were at
15 55,000 and were well above the budget of 97,000 --
16 excuse me, well below the budget of 97,000 and our
17 the main contributor to the revenue shortfall. We
18 just didn't collect the taxes that we had budgeted.

19 April's drop in revenue was partially
20 offset by a strong reduction in expenses of 94,000
21 against a budget of 184,000. This reduction in
22 total expenses occurred in a general fund of only
23 70,000 against a budget of 121,000. The drop in
24 general fund expenses is primarily due to less than
25 normal police and street department expenses of

1 32,000 due to benefit payments made in March for
2 both the month of March and April. The net surplus
3 of 4,000 that we experienced in April is a step in
4 the right direction. However, the year-to-date net
5 loss of 12,000 requires further reduction in
6 expenses to meet the objective of a balanced budget
7 in 2012. We will take whatever steps are necessary
8 to balance the budget in 2012.

9 On a brighter note and for your
10 children, if you have school-aged children, the
11 Jenkins Park city swimming pool will open the day
12 after school is out, so you now have a babysitter of
13 sorts if you have children.

14 On another note, we are working with a
15 local -- by local, I mean, city and county
16 volunteers who are putting together a farmer's
17 market. I know we already have a farmer's market
18 out here on Saturday out here on the square, but
19 this group of individuals are seeking to expand the
20 farmer's market from Monday through Saturday and we
21 really hope to have that accomplished sooner rather
22 than later.

23 Again, I thank the County Commissioners
24 for the opportunity to address Dade Countians, my
25 fellow Dade Countians and we ask for your support

1 and we ask for your patience and we ask for your
2 understanding. Thank you.

3 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Mayor. Have
4 you got any questions, anyone?

5 MR. GOFF: No.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Mitchell?

7 MR. SMITH: No.

8 MR. RUMLEY: I appreciate you being
9 here. I appreciate your report.

10 Okay. I have someone from the library
11 tonight that she's got a few words she wants to say
12 to us.

13 MS. SHARP: Okay. I was wanting to let
14 everybody know about -- this is the third year that
15 Georgia has decided to do a sweepstakes. This is a
16 legit sweepstakes. You can win \$5,529 or -- they
17 hope that you put it in a college, but they will
18 actually send you a check and they hope that you put
19 it in a college fund, but it's Path to College and I
20 have some bookmarkers up here. You can put your
21 grandchildren. It's for -- it's open to legal
22 residents of the state of Georgia who are at least
23 21 years of age or older or parents, legal guardians
24 or grandparents who have children born in 1996 or
25 after. So you can put babies in, but you can

1 register online. The key to it is they have to
2 participate in the summer reading program. They can
3 come to the library and sign up. If they draw your
4 name, they call the library and ask if they
5 participated and we just give them the information
6 that they did and we want someone from this county
7 to win. Someone from Atlanta has won two years in a
8 row, so we really want everyone to participate, but
9 you just go online. It's legit. The state came and
10 told us. They do. It's a legit contest they do
11 every year.

12 And also, we have two software programs
13 available at the library. We had a job fair
14 April 19th and we had 35 people show up that put
15 applications in. She's supposed to be letting me
16 know how many people they actually hired from that.
17 So we're hoping to hear that soon. But pertaining
18 to that, we have two softwares. Walker County
19 received a grant and they received two software
20 programs, Cypress Resume and Learning Express
21 Library. They asked us since we were in their
22 system if we could participate in that also, so they
23 said yes. So they're allowing the Dade County
24 Library card holders to use it also.

25 The Learning Express has college,

1 things for college students, high school students
2 and adults. There's a pretest, nursing tests, all
3 kinds of things, GED pretest. There's skill
4 building things for adults on there. And then
5 Cypress Resume helps people with resumes, cover
6 letters and all kinds of things like that. So they
7 are two really -- you can go to our web page or use
8 them at home as long as you have a library card.
9 You just put the library card number is as your user
10 name and I have some information on that also, if
11 you would like.

12 Do you want me to go ahead and tell
13 them about what we're going? The library -- Debbie
14 is going to tell you about the Heritage Festival,
15 but the library is going to do did you know. We
16 have some questions. If you'll come by our booth in
17 front of the library, we have some questions did you
18 know. We're going to test your history of Dade
19 County and we'll kind of have a scavenger hunt and
20 with the scavenger hunt, when you bring your
21 scavenger hunt back in, if you would like to sit
22 down, we will be videoing and you can start out did
23 you know that I've lived in Dade County for -- and
24 things that's happened in the history. We're going
25 to keep the disk in the genealogy room so that you

1 can -- come by and look at, you know -- everybody
2 keeps saying record history, record history and
3 record history, so you can kind of record your
4 history and maybe your grandchildren can come by one
5 day and see the video and you can tell about the
6 history of you living in Dade County. But we'll
7 have -- it will kind of be fun testing people's
8 history. I have found out a lot of interesting
9 things that I didn't know and we'll have you going
10 around Trenton trying to find these locations.
11 That's what the library is doing. Does anybody have
12 any questions?

13 MR. RUMLEY: That's good. When will
14 that start as far as the taping? Are you starting
15 it when?

16 MS. SHARP: Oh, we're going to start
17 Friday evening. What time are we starting?

18 MR. CERVELLI: About 5:00.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Robert, don't go over
20 there and do you might be a redneck.

21 MR. GOFF: Here's your sign.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Thank you. Debbie,
23 we are our executive from the Chamber of Commerce
24 here.

25 MS. TINKER: I think everybody has

1 covered almost everything. I did want to -- I did
2 want to thank Commissioner Goff. We did receive our
3 work ready signs this week that will be being
4 installed on one of our highways. We need to find
5 out first if it will be one of the county roads or
6 state one. One of our county employees said he
7 could get them installed for us if they'll allow it.

8 A few things that are still coming up.
9 The farmer's market does start this weekend on the
10 square and that will be from 9:00 until 12:00, so
11 everybody come out and support that. Our festival
12 is coming up and that is the third weekend in May
13 and the activities, the library has told you their
14 participation. Peter mentioned the powwow. There
15 will be a battle of the bands, dual sport poker run
16 for motorcycles, historic debate recreated by Dade
17 County students, farmer's market and arts and crafts
18 fair, friends of Cloudland Canyon, five-mile canyon
19 walk to Trenton, Dade Heritage scholarship pageant
20 and a variety of food and game vendors. This is put
21 by the State of Dade Heritage Festival Board and
22 it's made up of community partners, people from the
23 Chamber, people from the City and the library
24 participates, the American Legion, KWN. So you have
25 a lot of people that's investing a lot of time. So

1 we hope that a lot of Dade County people will come
2 out.

3 And at the same time you have Antique
4 Alley going on and this year they coincided each
5 other, so we are hoping that it will both activities
6 and I know that there will be quite a bit going on
7 down at RHaven Family Overnight Park and I'll let
8 Butch expand on that more. He has taken over that
9 web site and doing with it and, of course, the
10 Chamber has always been the call center for Antique
11 Alley and we do all the mail-outs there.

12 We will not be having a chamber
13 luncheon this month due to those two events, but in
14 June we do hope to have people come in and talk
15 about the new hospital transportation, is it
16 T.S.P.L.O.S.T, and so that we can get the
17 information out so that you can make an educated
18 choice to vote yes or no, how it can benefit our
19 county, the ways it can be used and the revenues
20 that could come in that I don't believe Dade County
21 has ever seen here.

22 MR. RUMLEY: No. As far as roads and
23 bridges, it would be 800 plus thousand dollars a
24 year.

25 MS. TINKER: So we hope to get someone

1 here to come in and speak to everyone and so that
2 will educate us and we'll know how to vote in July.
3 And then the festival actually kicks off, I believe,
4 next Saturday night and that is with the Dade
5 Heritage scholarship pageant and that's being held
6 at the Civic Center for that. Thank you. Not this
7 Saturday, but the next one.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Any questions for Debbie?
9 Anyone in the audience?

10 MS. TINKER: Butch, do you want to come
11 up and talk more on Antique Alley for us?

12 MR. RAPER: I don't need the podium. I
13 think everybody will be able to hear me. Basically,
14 I just wanted to remind everybody with the State of
15 Dade Heritage Festival going on and the fact that
16 the Antique Alley can bring out between 10 and
17 35,000 additional traffic through our county, we
18 need to be aware of that. As you talked about as
19 far as the bikes as well, we need to show the
20 hospitality. And the other thing is that it will be
21 tying up, you know, probably Highway 11 here in
22 downtown during the festival, very heavy and you
23 need to show some patience because in the Antique
24 Alley, there's going to be a vendor entrance, as I
25 understand it, here at Crabtree Street and that will

1 give a parking entrance coming in on Wolverine over
2 by Hardee's. So both of those intersections will
3 probably be fairly busy.

4 As far as the other thing, the dual
5 sport ride, which is all of your, you know,
6 motorcycles that will be riding, that ride is 100
7 miles long throughout Dade County, 50 miles asphalt,
8 50 miles on gravel. They will be, from what I
9 understand, starting out at the American Legion, so
10 there will be that traffic as well going on. So
11 everybody is really going to have to be patient.
12 When you find a place that has stuff that you want
13 to look at and buy, don't hesitate to hang around.
14 Most everybody setting up along the route will have
15 food, I'm sure. Everybody just needs to be aware
16 the next couple of weekends highly packed with
17 traffic and try to be as safe as you possibly can.

18 MR. CERVELLI: Thank you.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Thank you, Butch.
20 That's a good report. We've got a lot happening
21 this month. As Butch says, just be patient because
22 it will be congested not only from the bikes, but
23 actually this right here will affect more people
24 county wide, our Heritage Festival and the actual
25 flea market or the Antique Alley. It will be heavy

1 and hopefully we'll have good weather.

2 Okay. Don, you've got center stage.

3 MR. GOFF: Mr. President.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Oh, yeah. Sorry. Our
5 financial report for our previous month.

6 MR. TOWNSEND: I would like to say one
7 thing about Robert. He failed to mention one of the
8 accolades that was presented as well as the
9 president is he was presented as a certified
10 commissioner advance program diploma or certificate
11 or whatever.

12 MR. CERVELLI: Yeah. He is super
13 certified.

14 MR. TOWNSEND: He is absolutely
15 certifiable in an advanced program, so we
16 congratulate him. That's leadership development,
17 property tax assessment, appraisal, human resource,
18 ethics and many other things at the certified
19 commissioner training that all of our commissioners
20 now have 48 hours, at a minimum of 48 hours. Many
21 of them have more than that, but Robert has exceeded
22 an additional 48 hours. I guess he's probably
23 actually over 100 hours of training now, so
24 congratulations to him.

25 MR. RUMLEY: He's a smart man. I'll

1 have to say that.

2 MR. TOWNSEND: All right. The
3 financial report. As of April 30th, 2012, the
4 general fund had a balance of \$359,733; Federal
5 Asset Fund, U.S. Treasury, \$288, Sheriff's Special
6 Fund, \$1,483; Drug Abuse Education Fund, \$109,085.
7 Supplemental Juvenile Services Fund, \$19,704; victim
8 Assistance Fund, \$4,508; Jail Fund, \$26,968; Federal
9 Asset Fund, Department of Justice, \$3,162. The
10 payroll account, \$31,060.

11 Principle and interest account for the
12 2004 S.P.L.O.S.T funds remaining, \$6,213. Projects
13 account for the 2009 S.P.L.O.S.T., \$122,518.
14 Proceeds account, \$904,725. Construction account,
15 \$17,233.

16 In your commissioner's packets on page
17 four and five, you see the general fund revenue by
18 department and that's the income statement for the
19 month of March ending -- I'm sorry, March 31st, we
20 had actual revenues of \$518,179. Year-to-date
21 revenues, \$7,305,766. Expenses for the month of
22 March was \$629,567 and total year-to-date was --
23 expenses was \$7,591,597. The revenues less expenses
24 for March is short 111,387 and revenues less
25 expenses year-to-date was short \$285,830.

1 So far through March 31st budget
2 attained would have been 75 percent. Revenues
3 attained was 76.93 percent. Expenses attained
4 78.37 percent. And then back a few pages you'll see
5 the -- of course, the local option sales tax for the
6 county did bring in -- on April 30th we received
7 from the Department of Revenue \$179,922.04 and
8 special local option sales tax, same date,
9 \$224,902.53.

10 And so far for the year, year-to-date
11 through April 2nd, 2012, the tax commissioner has
12 collected as far as real property tax in Dade County
13 at 94.26 percent for her whole department, a total
14 of 91.38 percent for a total of just in tax revenues
15 of \$291,650. That's it.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Any questions for Mr.
17 Townsend? Any comments? I appreciate that, Don.
18 Good job.

19 The reading of the minutes of the
20 previous month's regular meeting and any special
21 called meeting will not be required since all
22 Commissioners have been furnished copies in advance.
23 The minutes are public record and available for
24 review in my office, county executive's office. The
25 minutes are included in our consent agenda. At this

1 time, Don, would you go over the consent agenda as
2 presented at the work session?

3 MR. TOWNSEND: That would be the
4 approval of previous meeting minutes for
5 April 5th, 2012; the board -- a proclamation,
6 sorry. Armed Forces Day Proclamation for the month
7 of May, specifically May 19th, and also approval
8 of one S.P.L.O.S.T purchase tonight for the Dade
9 County Public Library for Windstream Communications
10 of a low bid for high tel 3000 telephone system for
11 a total amount of \$4,223.66.

12 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any questions or
13 comments pertaining to the consent agenda? I hear
14 none, so I will entertain a motion to approve the
15 consent agenda.

16 MR. GOFF: I make a motion we approve
17 the consent agenda.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Do I hear a second?

19 MR. SMITH: Second.

20 MR. CERVELLI: Second.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I've got seconds.
22 I'll call a vote. Mr. Cervelli?

23 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

25 MR. GOFF: Yes.

1 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Smith?

2 MR. SMITH: Yes.

3 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman is absent.

4 The chair votes yes.

5 Robin, do you want to bring us up to
6 date on any legal matters, preferably the bankruptcy
7 there with -- actually, I've had some people ask
8 this in the past few -- it's TAS, that's actually
9 the people that are filing the bankruptcy?

10 MR. ROGERS: That's correct.

11 MR. RUMLEY: And the Southern Group is
12 actually is another total corporate group, which is
13 owned by the same people or actually controlled by
14 the same people, right?

15 MR. ROGERS: You're right. It's
16 actually TAS is the group that filed for bankruptcy
17 and this is pending up in Bankruptcy Court in
18 Chattanooga. There's been a series of hearings.
19 Currently, there's two motion pending in the
20 bankruptcy. First, the motion filed by TAS to --
21 for leave of the bankruptcy court to -- permission
22 of the bankruptcy court to sell the property clear
23 of any liens or other encumbrances. The other is a
24 motion filed by TAS to allow for an extension of
25 time to file a reorganization plan and these were to

1 come up today on May 3rd and it was -- they were
2 continued to May 31st, so there wasn't actually
3 anything done on these hearings today. There's --
4 even though there's not anything being done
5 formally, there's a lot of work being done on this
6 case by a lot of different sides and I anticipate
7 there will be something more substantive and
8 concrete to be able to report to you by the next
9 meeting. Anyway, as for right now, the next hearing
10 date is scheduled for May 31.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Robin, I told you wrong.
12 I told you next Thursday, so it's May 31st.

13 I appreciate that, Robin. So we have
14 made several trips to Chattanooga, as of our press
15 has, and hopefully we can bring this -- bring you
16 some -- maybe positive reports back the next
17 meeting. And even before, something good could
18 happen between now and then. Who knows. We'll keep
19 the press informed on that. Any unfinished business
20 now that we need to go into or talk about? I can't
21 think of any.

22 MR. TOWNSEND: Approval of the
23 financial.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Oh, yeah. Sorry. Okay.
25 Do I have a motion to approve the -- we didn't

1 approve the financial -- I mean, the consent.

2 MR. TOWNSEND: We did that. This is
3 for financial.

4 MR. RUMLEY: The financial. Don has a
5 whole new different set of rules that we've got to
6 go through now to actually hold this meeting. I
7 mean, we've changed our whole process here and
8 that's coming from the open records -- the new
9 legislation pertaining to open records and so the
10 way we actually hold our meetings, you may not have
11 noticed anything, but it really is different
12 language. We have to use -- also if we go into
13 executive session, that's totally changed in the
14 whole state of Georgia. Executive session is now --
15 even the School Board, any board pertaining or that
16 comes under our governing authority, School Board or
17 Commission, there has to be minutes taken in the
18 executive session. Those minutes will be assigned
19 to one person in the county to actually -- they'll
20 be in a vault, locked up and the only way that can
21 be actually solicited or actually viewed will be
22 from a judge, a superior court judge or a judge
23 ordering that and that's just a little bit. I mean,
24 it goes on and on and if you go online and pull it
25 up, it's pretty interesting to read. There's been

1 little changes in the record thing.

2 MR. CERVELLI: It's not interesting to
3 read. It's not interesting, but it's detailed.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Well, it is. It's pretty
5 important.

6 MR. TOWNSEND: But we are tweaking
7 that. It will get better next month.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Having said that,
9 do I have a motion to approve our finance as
10 presented by -- our finances as presented by Brother
11 Townsend? Do I hear a motion?

12 MR. GOFF: I make the motion we approve
13 the financial statement as read.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Do I have a second?

15 MR. CERVELLI: Second.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I'll call a vote.
17 Mr. Cervelli?

18 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

20 MR. GOFF: Yes.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Smith?

22 MR. SMITH: Yes.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Chairman, yes. Okay.
24 Okay. Any new business? Which would be considered
25 the consent agenda in approving. Anyone want to

1 talk to us tonight, come up and anything you've got
2 on your mind you want to talk about or any
3 questions?

4 MR. RAPER: Just a follow-up on the
5 status of the kitchen in the jail, and also if you
6 have anything as far as kind of savings that have
7 been done with the changing of lighting and
8 different things through the Chevron package.

9 MR. RUMLEY: The jail, we've got the
10 people that's actually contracted that will be
11 actually cooking and will be supplying all the
12 equipment will be here tomorrow and we are really
13 close to that. I mean, the equipment is already
14 ordered, but he's coming up tomorrow just to walk
15 through, you know, because it's getting close to the
16 finished product as far as our end of it. The
17 cooler should be up and running next week, you know.
18 We've already got the pads poured for it and
19 everything. So we're talking just a few weeks and
20 we'll be up and running.

21 Now, on the actual savings as far as
22 the Chevron, Don, have you got any real figures on
23 that?

24 MR. TOWNSEND: No. We have noticed
25 though when we were doing the budget calculation

1 this year, we have nine months worth of data. It's
2 pretty clean data after the fact of what they did as
3 far as installing new ballasts and new lighting and
4 water heaters and the boiler system and all these
5 different things. We have noticed that all of those
6 numbers were down this year. Now, we had a mild
7 winter, so it's kind of hard to determine was it the
8 mild winter or was it the new lightbulbs or both.
9 We hope that it's both. There is a new software
10 that tracks that kind of thing as far as utility
11 bills in order to check up on Chevron's numbers and
12 I think that we -- I haven't really discussed that
13 with the Commissioners yet, but I was introduced and
14 I think it may be something we want to do just to
15 make sure we guarantee their guaranteed numbers are
16 actually accurate. We have noticed all the
17 utilities are down. Now, again, we had a mild
18 winter, so we've got to be careful with that.

19 MR. CERVELLI: I think we set the
20 budget with lower power numbers.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Exactly.

22 MR. TOWNSEND: We actually set the
23 budget for 2012 last year we did reduce probably by
24 about ten percent across the board, so it actually
25 came under that. It's just hard to say.

1 MR. RAPER: So as far as those cost
2 savings as well as the savings on the food bill at
3 the jail and from what I understand, you'll also be
4 able to help with the meals for the senior center.

5 MR. RUMLEY: We'll probably be up and
6 running anywhere from six months or more. We're
7 going to get everything down pat, the menus and all
8 that, but that will happen. That's something that
9 will happen.

10 MR. RAPER: So as far as those savings,
11 I mean, going into the budget, you know, are we
12 projecting those in the budget as far as we're
13 standing now?

14 MR. CERVELLI: Yeah. Absolutely.

15 MR. RAPER: Thank you.

16 MR. RUMLEY: I mean, probably after we
17 get -- Don, that software, I meant to talk to you
18 about that. That is kind of a backup where we can
19 actually, like we said, track. We don't have to
20 just take Chevron's numbers. The software was only
21 like \$450. It was a monthly -- we probably
22 discussed it, but do they have a monthly or a yearly
23 fee that they charge?

24 MR. TOWNSEND: My understanding is you
25 buy the software and they help implement it and

1 that's it. There's no monthly fee. It's just --
2 and I think the software is about \$700 one time,
3 but, you know, if it's going to save 53,000 a year,
4 it's well worth it. We don't want Chevron to come
5 up and say, well, you didn't do this or you didn't
6 turn the lights off here. The guaranteed savings
7 are based on us complying with certain temperatures.
8 Like, for instance, tonight it felt humid, warm in
9 here to me.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Any other questions or
11 comments? Robin, do you have anything you want to
12 add to the meeting? Okay. If not, I'll entertain a
13 motion to adjourn.

14 MR. CERVELLI: So moved.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Do I hear a second?

16 MR. GOFF: Second.

17 MR. RUMLEY: All in favor, say aye.

18 ALL COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

19
20 END OF MEETING
21
22
23
24
25

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF TENNESSEE:

:

COUNTY OF HAMILTON:

I, Erin M. Flatt, LCR #307, CCR, licensed court reporter and notary public, in and for the State of Tennessee, do hereby certify that the above meeting was reported by me and that the foregoing 48 pages of the transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability.

I further certify that I am not related to nor an employee of counsel or any of the parties to the action, nor am I in any way financially interested in the outcome of this case.

I further certify that I am duly licensed by the Tennessee Board of Court Reporting as a Licensed Court Reporter as evidenced by the LCR number and expiration date following my name below.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 4th of June, 2012.

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Expiration Date: 6/30/2012
Notary Public Commission
Expires: December 21, 2014.